THE NAUTILUS.

VOL. X. AUGUST, 1896. No. 4

A NEW SPECIES OF POMATIOPSIS.

BY HENRY A. PILSBRY.

The genus *Pomatiopsis* is peculiar to North America. All of the species occur in the temperate portion of the continent, and the whole United States, excepting perhaps parts of the Rocky Mountain region, still but imperfectly explored for small shells, is occupied by the various forms. The best-known species *P. lapidaria* Say, is as much a terrestrial mollusk as most of the Succineas. They cannot live for any length of time immersed in water, and I have drowned specimens, just as land snails may be drowned, by confining them in a vessel full of water. Information upon the other species is less definite, but *P. cincinnatiensis* at least seems to be of aquatic habits.

The genus is much more distinct than most genera of *Amnicolidæ*, the dentition being, as William Stimpson first pointed out, strikingly characteristic of the group. The shells vary from the high, turrited *Bythinella* form, to nearly as short as some Amnicolas.

The species described below is the third from the Eastern States, and the fourth species of the genus, the others being *P. lapidaria* Say, *P. cincinnatiensis* Lea and *P. intermedia* Tryon.

Pomatiopsis Hinkleyi n. sp.

Shell perforate, turrited, decidedly stouter in figure than *P. lapidaria*, but less compact and widely conic than *P. cincinnatiensis*. Olive-brown. Surface with growth-lines about as in *P. lapidaria*. Whorls 6, very convex, separated by a deep suture. Aperture

slightly exceeding one-third the length of shell, ovate, the outer lip strongly arcuate above, columellar margin flattened above; peristome continuous, the adnate parietal portion longer than in *P. lapidaria*. Alt. 6, diam. 3½ mm.

Black Falls, above Florence, Alabama (A. A. Hinkley, 1894).

The species is somewhat intermediate between *P. lapidaria* and *P. cincinnatiensis*, but more like the former, from which, however, it is very easily distinguished on comparison. The form is stouter, the aperture larger, the outer lip more strongly curved above, and the color duskier. The apex is somewhat eroded in all of the well grown specimens. The dentition is similar in general characters to that of *P. lapidaria*.

I am indebted to Mr. Bryant Walker for the specimens, which were collected by Mr. Hinkley. Upon inquiry, my correspondent quotes as follows from Mr. Hinkley's letter: "Most of the distance from Florence to the last lock of the canal there is a steep rocky bank; a few rods from the water of the river over this bank and out of it are several small streams and springs of clear water. The species under consideration was seen at most of these small streams but was not numerous except at the two falls from which they were taken. Three forms of *Goniobasis* were taken from the same streams. Now, while the *Goniobasis* were in the water, the others were not. They were taken from moss and decaying vegetation but were kept damp by the spray of the falls or by the dripping water under the rock back of the falls and the saturated moss. As I made a hurried trip the day I collected these shells, they were not examined closely, but I took it for granted they were feeding in the decaying vegetation. None of them were found beyond the reach of the spray but still they might have been hidden under the rubbish."

From this the new species appears, as Mr. Walker remarks, to be clearly Pomatiopsine in habits. In choosing a specific term for the form, I have acted upon the suggestion of Mr. Walker that the name of one of our best collectors be associated with this interesting species.

THE WEIGHT AND SIZE OF SHELLS.

BY REV. HENRY W. WINKLEY.

With the assistance of Mr. D. E. Owen, teacher of Physics in Thornton Academy, the writer has weighed a few species of minute shells. The results are given as follows: